

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:430
ANSWERED ON:19.12.2000
ACCIDENTS IN COAL MINES
RAM SINGH KASWAN;RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of accidents that took place in the coal mines during each of the last three years till date, State- wise;
- (b) the number of casualties during the said period, State- wise;
- (c) the amount of compensation paid to the dependants of the deceased and wounded labourers during this period, State- wise;
- (d) whether any inquiry has been conducted to ascertain the causes of the accidents;
- (e) if so, the outcome thereof; and
- (f) the details of new measures taken/being taken by the Government to check these accidents?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR COAL (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM)

(a) to (f): A statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement referred to in parts (a) to (f) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 430 for 19.12.2000 regarding Accidents in Coal Mines.

The number of fatal accidents that took place in the coal mines of Coal India Limited, the fatalities therein and the amount of compensation paid, during 1997, 1998, 1999 & 2000 (till Nov., 2000) is furnished as under:-

YEAR	ITEM	ASSAM	BIHAR	MAHAR	MP	ORISSA	UP	WB	ASHTRA
1997	ACCIDENTS	1	44	4	24	7	1	18	
	FATALITIES	1	51	4	25	7	2	21	
	COMPENSATION	189560	7853873	577030	2781693	863503	372600	3006319	
1998	ACCIDENTS	2	35	12	17	5	0	20	
	FATALITIES	2	40	13	19	8	0	22	
	COMPENSATI	338122	6185220	2040162	3061832	1433667	0	2880438	
1999	ACCIDENTS	1	36	7	25	7	0	18	
	FATALITIES	1	38	7	28	7	0	22	
	COMPENSATION	149670	5617740	1179465	4704963	1041732	0	3131902	
2000	ACCIDENTS	1	23	7	22	1	2	15	
(UPTO NOV.)									
	FATALITIES	1	31	16	24	1	2	16	
	COMPENSATION	15000+	3853886	2741999	3519300	197060	30000+	2299498	

NOTE

ACCIDENTS & FATALITIES FOR 2000 SUBJECT TO RECONCILIATION WITH DGMS

+ Ex-gratia paid, compensation under process.

Enquiry is conducted into each fatal accident by the internal safety organisation (ISO) of the company as well as by officials of Director General of Mines Safety (DGMS).

The causes and circumstances leading to each fatal accident and the preventive measures required to be taken to avoid such accidents in future is given in the report of the inquiries conducted by ISO.

The following new measures have been undertaken to check accidents in coal mining operations of Coal India Limited :

1. Design of system of support of roof in the development workings in underground mines by scientific support systems based on Rock-Mass-Rating studies .
2. Progressive use of steel support in underground mines.
3. Greater use of quick-setting cement capsule grouted roof bolts for support in development workings in underground mines.
4. Reduced exposure of workers to mining hazards by mechanisation of loading operations by increasing use of SDLs & LHDs in below ground mines.
5. Continued efforts towards induction of capital intensive mechanised longwall mining with powered support where workmen work under skin-to-skin steel roof support in underground mines.
6. Thrust on training & retraining of workmen, supervisors to increase safety awareness of the workmen
7. A comprehensive action plan has been framed to reduce accidents in opencast mines.

The safety norms/rules formulated by DGMS are implemented in Coal India Limited mines. Safety Board meetings at Coal India are held twice in a year which have representation from DGMS. Tripartite meetings between management, DGMS and Trade Union representatives are held twice in a year at subsidiary Company level and once in a year at Colliery/Unit level. Similarly, Standing Committee on Safety Chaired by Minister In-charge (Coal) are held twice a year, in the Ministry of Coal, which is represented by Director General of Mines Safety and Ministry of Labour officials.